

Program for Dietetic Interns (PDI)



**Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
Division of Community Health
Nutrition Policy and Education Unit**

Accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education
American Dietetic Association
120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000, Chicago, Illinois 60606-6995
Phone (312) 899-0040 ext 5400

Many career opportunities and unique, rewarding experiences await you in public health and community nutrition

Career opportunities may include:

- Women, Infants, and Children Nutrition Program (WIC)
- Mental Health
- Child and Adult Care Food Program
- Summer Food Service Program
- Maternal and Child Health Program
- Food Stamps Nutrition Education Program
- Senior Services
- Chronic Disease
- Nutrition Surveillance
- Special Health Care Needs
- University Extension
- Health Promotion
- School Food Services
- Home Health



Philosophy and mission of the program

The Program for Dietetic Interns shares the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Service's (DHSS) commitment to a quality-driven public health system that assures highly competent, professional staff to provide health care especially in medically underserved areas of Missouri.

Our mission is to provide training in competency skills required in dietetics for public health nutritionists and dietetic graduates through planned experiences and educational opportunities. The Program has a general emphasis with a strong foundation in community and public health nutrition.

Deadline for application to PDI

The program will accept four interns per year. Two slots will be filled with Missouri state and local health agency nutritionists through the preselect option; and two will be filled through computer matching. Applicants who are not employed by the DHSS or a local public health agency must participate in computer matching. Requests may be addressed to:

D & D Digital Systems
137 Lynn Avenue
Ames, IA 50014

Application packets of preselect option applicants must be postmarked by December 31. Application packets of computer matching applicants must be postmarked by the February deadline date for April computer matching. **See application packet for specific dates.**

Why is there a program?

There is an increasing demand for skilled dietetic professionals in public health and community-based programs. Currently, Missouri does not have enough supervised practice opportunities leading to credentialing, to meet these needs. The program is being offered to assure that community needs for dietetic practitioners are met.



Who is eligible to apply?

Those eligible for the program must have a B.S. degree from an accredited college or university and verification of completion of Didactic Program in Dietetics requirements. Preference is given to individuals who are currently residing in the state of Missouri, who are graduates of a Missouri college or university, or who are working for the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services or a DHSS contractor in the provision of nutrition services to citizens of the state.

Where is the program?

The program is administered through the Missouri Division of Community Health, Nutrition Policy and Education Unit. Supervised practice experiences are provided at affiliate sites such as public health agencies, hospitals, long-term care facilities, schools, and other facilities in the state of Missouri. When possible, site rotations will be in consideration of the intern's geographic residence. There will be several weeks during the program that interns will need to be in Jefferson City for meetings or the didactic portion of the internship.



About the program

The program is designed to be flexible, meeting the needs of both the traditional and non-traditional student. The program is full time, approximately 40 hours per week, for 38 weeks from September through May. Graduates will be eligible to write the Registration Examination for Dietitians upon successful completion of the program.

Costs to the intern

The intern will be responsible for costs involved in the completion of the program.

Estimated intern expenditures during course of program (as of March 2003)

Textbooks and supplies	\$200 - \$400
Professional liability insurance	\$50 - \$1000
Student membership in ADA	\$43

Cost of living

Note: Will vary with assigned experiences. Interns are responsible for making their own housing arrangements.

Temporary housing: Estimated at **\$300 - \$500** per month during didactic sessions, orientation, and possibly some rotations

Food: Variable, at the expense of the intern

Gas, vehicle and automobile insurance: Interns are expected to pay their own travel and insurance expenses. There may be a great deal of traveling (up to 300 miles per day round trip). Travel can be reduced for those interns willing to obtain temporary housing in each location of supervised experience.

Registration exam review course	\$195
Registration examination fee	\$125
Lab coat and uniform	\$100
Medical tests and immunizations required by the affiliate sites	varies
Any costs associated with mandatory conference attendance	varies
Health insurance	varies
Computer matching	\$50



For additional information or an application packet,
contact:

Director of Program for Dietetic Interns
Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
Division of Community Health
Nutrition Policy and Education Unit
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Jefferson City, MO 65102
1-573-751-6183
www.dhss.state.mo.us/MissouriNutrition

